

D2 cd. with a phenol oxidizing enzyme naturally produced from *Stachybotrys chartarum* MUCL accession number 38898 as measured by an immunoprecipitation line by Ouchterlony technique.

D3 3 ~~10~~. (AMENDED) A purified oxidase enzyme having an apparent molecular weight of about 38 kD as determined by SDS-PAGE and exhibiting an increase in apparent molecular weight after boiling, wherein said purified enzyme is obtained from *Stachybotrys parvispora* and is capable of modifying the color associated with a dye or colored compound.

D4 4 ~~11~~. (AMENDED) A purified oxidase enzyme having an apparent molecular weight of about 30.9 kD as determined by SDS-PAGE and exhibiting an increase in apparent molecular weight after boiling, wherein said purified enzyme is obtained from *Stachybotrys chartarum* and is capable of modifying the color associated with a dye or color compound.

D5 5 ~~12~~. (AMENDED) The enzyme of claim ~~10~~³ having a pH optimum of 5.0 to 7.0, inclusive as determined by incubation for 2 minutes at 20 degrees C with 2,2'-azino-bis (3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6-sulphonate (ABTS) as ^asubstrate.

Sub E3 D6 13. (AMENDED) The enzyme of claim 10 having pH optimum of 6.0 to 7.5, inclusive, as determined by incubation for 2 minutes at 20 degrees C with syringaldizing as substrate.

Sub E4 D7 14. (AMENDED) The enzyme of claim 10 having a pH optimum of 7.0 to 9.0, inclusive, as determined by incubation for 2 minutes at 20 degrees C with 2,6-dimethoxyphenol as substrate.

D8 8 ~~60~~. (AMENDED) The enzyme of Claim ~~10~~³, wherein the *Stachybotrys parvispora* has MUCL accession number 38996.

D9 9 ~~61~~. (AMENDED) The enzyme of Claim ~~11~~⁴, wherein the *Stachybotrys chartarum* has MUCL accession number 38898.

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D10 10 ~~62~~. (AMENDED) The enzyme of Claim ~~13~~, wherein the *Stachybotrys parvispora* has MUCL accession number 38996.

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D11 11 ~~63~~. (AMENDED) The enzyme of Claim ~~14~~, wherein the *Stachybotrys parvispora* has MUCL accession number 38996.

sub ⁵
E5 D12 64. (AMENDED) The enzyme of claim 10, wherein said colored compound is a porphyrin a polyphenol, a carotenoid, an anthocyanin ora maillard reaction compound.

sub ⁶
E6 D13 65. (AMENDED) The enzyme of claim 11, wherein said colored compound is at least one of a porphyrin, a polyphenol, a carotenoid, an anthocyanin ora maillard reaction compound.